

IN THE CLAIMS

1. [Currently amended] A system for preventing the discharge of a live ammunition cartridge having an angled shoulder and creating pressure when fired and including a bullet portion normally propelled by said pressure from a rifle or machine gun having a barrel with a longitudinal axis within which the ammunition cartridge is loaded and two sides, comprising:
  - the barrel of the rifle or machine gun having at least two apertures formed therein, with each of said at least two apertures being aligned with a the shoulder portion of said live ammunition cartridge and said longitudinal axis of said barrel; and
  - said live ammunition cartridge and said barrel being cooperatively associated, so as to vent said pressure created by firing said ammunition cartridge through said barrel apertures and thereby deprive said live ammunition cartridge of sufficient pressure to propel said bullet along said longitudinal axis of said barrel and retaining said bullet in said barrel.
2. [Currently amended] The invention according to Claim 1 wherein said at least two apertures are aligned substantially perpendicularly to said shoulder portion of said live ammunition cartridge.
3. [Currently amended] The invention according to Claim 1 wherein said shoulder portion of said live ammunition cartridge is the weakest portion of said live ammunition cartridge.

4-9. [Withdrawn]

10. [Previously presented] The invention according to Claim 1 wherein said at least two apertures are located on said barrel such that the pressure is dispersed to at least one of the two sides of said rifle or machine gun.

11. [Withdrawn]

12. [Previously presented] The invention of Claim 1 wherein said at least two apertures comprises six apertures spaced about said barrel.

13. [Currently amended] A modified rifle barrel for preventing the discharge of a live ammunition cartridge having a shoulder and creating pressure when the rifle is fired and including a bullet normally propelled by said pressure down the rifle barrel, comprising:

six apertures spaced about the rifle barrel and aligned with a the shoulder ~~portion~~ of said live ammunition cartridge; and

said live ammunition cartridge and said barrel being cooperatively associated so as to vent said pressure created by firing said live ammunition cartridge through said six apertures and thereby deprive said live ammunition cartridge of sufficient pressure to propel said bullet through said barrel.

14. [Currently amended] The invention according to Claim 13 wherein said six apertures are aligned substantially perpendicularly to said shoulder ~~portion~~ of said live ammunition cartridge.

15. [Currently amended] The invention according to Claim 13 wherein said shoulder ~~portion~~ of said live ammunition cartridge is the weakest portion of said live ammunition cartridge.

16-18. [Withdrawn]